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Title: Need to allow SC/ST Welfare Associations in Government departments to hold meetings with the management for presenting their grievances.

DR. UDIT RAJ (NORTH WEST DELHI): All Government departments have SC/ST welfare Associations. The purpose of these welfare associations is to air the grievances of SC/ST employees, but very often they are denied access to authorities. Necessary facilities like office accommodation and related paraphernalia are also denied to SC/ST Welfare Associations. At many places, the authorities are pressurized by general category unions not to recognize SC/ST unions. Even if the SC/ST associations are not provided the facilities and power at par with general unions, their grievances should be entertained and permission to hold meetings by them should be granted. This is nothing but prejudice towards SC/ST associations and there is no harm in authorities granting them time for resolving their grievances. After all, strength of SC/ST employees is around 25% of the total workforce and neglecting their welfare associations means either disappointing them on neutralizing their opinion which has an overall bearing on the functioning of the Government. I request that SC/ST welfare associations be allowed to hold meetings with management and present their grievances to them.